

In 1868, in a nest of *sanguinea* at Shirley I found the following species, besides the usual *F. fusca*: *L. niger*, *L. flavus*, *T. erratica*, *M. ruginodis*, *M. scabrinodis*, *M. lobicornis*, *L. acervorum*, and *L. Nylanderi* (Entom. Annual, 1868), and the incident above recorded I think shows that *acervorum* is probably more of a constant resident than a casual visitor in *sanguinea*'s nest.—G. A. JAMES ROTHNEY, 15, Versailles Road, Anerley: *January 10th*, 1892.

Occurrence of Halictus cylindricus ♂ in April—In connection with Mr. R. C. L. Perkins' interesting remarks on stylopedized bees in this month's Ent. Mo. Mag., the following may be worth recording. On April 21st, 1882, I captured at Penzance (and have now in my collection) a male *Halictus cylindricus*. The appearance of a ♂ so early in the year was a surprise to me, and I made a special note of it at the time, so that there is no doubt whatever about the exact date. The winter and spring had been unusually mild, and this individual (together with others, perhaps), had survived—a living exception to the rule that "the ♂ *Halicti* all perish at the approach of winter."—E. D. MARQUAND, Fermain, Guernsey: *January 11th*, 1892.

Cathormiocerus maritimus, Rye.—In the Bulletin Soc. Ent. France, 1891, p. cccxiii (Meeting of November 25th), M. Croissandeau records the capture, in considerable quantity, of *C. maritimus* at Roscoff, Morlaix Bay (Finisterre). They were obtained by sifting upraised sods of herbage in uncultivated ground. The only British locality yet known for it is the neighbourhood of Portsmouth. Bedel (Col. du Bassin de la Seine, vi, p. 235) records *C. socius*, Boh., from Finisterre; but, as has already been pointed out by Uhagon and others, his insect is probably *C. maritimus*, Rye.*—G. C. CHAMPION, 11, Caldervale Road, Clapham, S.W.: *December 18th*, 1891.

Æcanthus pellucens not a British insect.—Mr. Shaw, in his excellent Synopsis of British Orthoptera, published in this Magazine (1890, p. 169), allows *Æcanthus pellucens* a place in our list of insects (though with great doubt as to the propriety of doing so) on the authority of a specimen said by Stephens to have been taken many years ago by Haworth. Mr. Shaw was thus evidently unaware that this specimen had long since been summarily disposed of by Westwood, who states (Int. Mod. Class, i, p. 448), "*Æcanthus pellucens* . . . has been given as an indigenous species on the authority of a specimen in the collection of the late Mr. Haworth. Having, however, purchased the insect at his sale, I am able to state that the specimen has been *misnamed*, being in no manner related to the insect in question." It may, therefore, be concluded that *Æcanthus pellucens* has no claim of any kind to a place in our catalogue of native insects.—D. SHARP, Cambridge: *January 2nd*, 1892.

[As the specimen probably still exists, it should not be difficult to decide what it really is.—EDS.]

Myrmedobia tenella, Zett., and distinguenda, Reut.—Besides the characters given by me for the ♀ of the above species in our last number, I may mention two

* See Ent. Mo. Mag., xxv, p. 122.

other important ones which I omitted, 1st, the shorter 2nd antennal joint in *tenella*, which is about a third shorter than the apical joint, and secondly, the reflexed lateral margins of the pronotum in that species, which are quite simple in *distinguenda*.—EDWARD SAUNDERS, St. Ann's, Woking: *January 8th*, 1892.

Reviews.

DIE KÄFER VON MITTELEUROPA; Erster Band.: by LUDWIG GANGLBAUER. Pp. 557, large 8vo. Vienna, 1892.

Vienna has for a long time past had the honour of supplying students of European *Coleoptera* with an acceptable work for determining their collections. Ludwig Redtenbacher's "Fauna Austriaca; die Käfer" went through three editions, the last appearing in 1874; and since then the Bestimmungs-Tabelle of Herr Reitter, of Vienna, have been much in demand. Now Herr Ludwig Ganglbauer, the worthy successor of Redtenbacher in the Natural History Museum at Vienna, has had the courage to undertake the difficult task of furnishing a new work descriptive of all the *Coleoptera* found in Central Europe.

This first volume is devoted to the "Caraboidea." The work is expected to be completed in six volumes, and the second volume, devoted to "Staphylinoidea," is now in course of preparation.

The volume is a great advance on its predecessors in the same field, and will be found far more satisfactory to work with; the great deficiencies of the previous Viennese works we have alluded to were that they were almost confined to complex tables, and gave little or no information as to variation and habitat. Herr Ganglbauer has availed himself of the assistance of well-prepared analytical tables, but has not trusted exclusively to them, each species being also described separately. Most of the important synonymy is given accompanied by references; there is a fair amount of information as to varieties, but the indications as to habitat are perhaps rather too much generalized. Taken altogether there can be no doubt that this is the best systematic work that has yet been produced on the *Coleoptera* of a large division of the European fauna. Unfortunately it is not accompanied by plates, though there are a few woodcuts in the text. Herr Ganglbauer includes in his series *Caraboidea* not only the *Gyrinidæ*, but also the *Paussidæ* and *Rhysodidæ*, and in his definition of the series he assists himself by reference to the larvæ, and to the wing neuration. It is clear that as practical aids to the determination of *Coleoptera* these characters are of little value, while as scientific expositions they are open to the objection that they have been tested only in the case of a comparatively small number of the forms to which they are supposed to apply. We mention this merely because we do not wish that the hearty approbation we give to the book for its general execution shall be taken as expressive of approval of all its details.—D. SHARP.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF NORTH AMERICA: by W. H. EDWARDS. 3rd Series, Part xii. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin, and Co. 1891.

This is an unusually interesting Part. It is occupied by *Papilio americanus*, Koll.; *P. Zolicaon*, Bdv., transformations showing the great dimorphism of the

larva; *Chionobas Uhleri*, Reakirt, with nearly 40 figures on the plate; and *Ch. Varuna*, Edwards, a species found at a comparatively low elevation, and of great variability as to the spotting of the wings. Local, and all other information, is as detailed as usual.

Societies.

BIRMINGHAM ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY: *December 21st*, 1891.—Rev. C. F. THORNEWILL, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. P. W. Abbott showed *Agrotis obelisca*, taken by Mr. A. J. Hodges in the Isle of Wight, also a specimen of *Noctua c-nigrum*, with which species Mr. Hodges says *obelisca* is often confounded on the sugar. Mr. R. C. Bradley showed *Pyrellia lasiophthalma* from Sutton. Mr. Abbott read a paper on "A holiday collecting in the Isle of Wight." He worked specially for *Agrotis lunigera*, with considerable success, but such was the danger of collecting on the cliffs where alone they are to be taken, that he advised others to leave it alone.

January 11th, 1892.—Mr. W. G. BLATCH, President, in the Chair.

Mr. R. C. Bradley showed some *Diptera* which had been shown at a former Meeting as *Pteropæcila lamed*, with the note that they had been confirmed as that species by Mr. Verrall. They had since, at his request, been again submitted to Mr. Verrall, and he names them as *Toxoneura muliebris*, and remarks that *P. lamed* is not yet recorded satisfactorily as British. A letter was read from Mr. C. J. Fryer recording *Stenamma Westwoodi* from Warwick. Mr. C. J. Wainwright read a paper on "A holiday spent in North Cornwall last year," in which he described the results of a fortnight's collecting on the North Coast, during which he took *Plusia orichalcea*, and many good *Diptera*. The paper was illustrated by photographs and the collections made.—COLBRAN J. WAINWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting was held on Monday, January 11th, 1892, in the Class Room of the Free Public Library, William Brown Street. The President, Mr. S. J. CAPPER, F.L.S., F.E.S., occupied the Chair, and in the course of his Annual Address referred to the entomological records of the past year, and also gave a series of most interesting personal reminiscences of his experience as an entomologist for over fifty years. This began at an Epping School, where Henry Doubleday did so much work, and helped the schoolboys by naming and describing their captures. The President spoke of the science since his first acquaintance with it, and the improvements in the mode of capturing and preserving specimens. He referred also to the inauguration of the Lancashire and Cheshire Society, the first Meeting of which was held at his house at Huyton in March, 1877. The President further enumerated the principal achievements of the past session. In conclusion, he remarked that it was to the younger Members that they now looked for the success of the Society. Mr. Capper was re-elected President, and the Rev. H. H. Higgins, Vice-President; Mr. F. N. Pierce, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. C. H. Walker, Hon. Librarian, were re-elected; the New Members of the Committee being Mr. George Harker and Mr. C. E. Stott. During

the evening the following specimens were exhibited by the Members named :—the President, varieties of British *Lepidoptera* ; Mr. C. S. Gregson, varieties of *Eupithecia venosata* ; Mr. R. Newstead, life-history of the bot fly, *Gastrophilus equi* ; Mr. H. B. Jones, *Phycis splendidella*, captured at Wallasey, July, 1891 ; Dr. J. W. Ellis, a fine web formed by the larvæ of *Ephestia elutella* ; and Mr. C. E. Stott, Scotch *Dasydia obfuscaria*, *Noctua sobrina*, &c.—F. N. PIERCE, *Hon. Sec.*, 143, Smithdown Lane, Liverpool.

THE SOUTH LONDON ENTOMOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY :
January 14th, 1892.—W. H. TUGWELL, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Mr. A. Harrison, F.C.A., F.R.M.S., was elected a Member.

Mr. R. Adkin exhibited *Sesia ichneumoniformis*, Fb. ; Mr. Tugwell remarked that the larvæ were supposed to feed on *Lotus corniculatus* ; Mr. Weir said it used to occur at Charlton, and he thought there was no *Lotus corniculatus* in this particular locality. Mr. Jager exhibited two varieties of *Vanessa Antiopa*, L., bred by Mr. Werner, of Biedenkoff, Germany. Mr. C. Penn showed *Agrotis tritici*, L., grey and dark forms from Deal, and dark forms from the North of Scotland and Sligo. Mr. Tugwell again exhibited the black specimens of the *Eupithecia* from Paisley, with typical examples of *E. virgaureata*, Dbl., and *E. castigata*, Hb., and remarked that he was quite sure it was not a black form of *E. satyrata*, nor, as Mr. Tutt suggested, of *E. virgaureata*, but was undoubtedly referable to *E. castigata*. Mr. Tutt said he was still of opinion that the species was *virgaureata*, which he had on many occasions received from Paisley. Mr. C. G. Barrett said he was inclined to think Mr. Tugwell was right in referring the examples to *castigata* ; and added that at Cannock Chase he had taken dark specimens of *castigata* nearly as black. Mr. Tugwell said he thought Mr. Tutt's specimens were *castigata*, and not *virgaureata*, but Mr. Barrett said four of them were certainly the latter.—H. W. BARKER, *Hon. Sec.*

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON : *January 27th*, 1892.—The 59th Annual Meeting, adjourned from the 20th inst. on account of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence.—FREDERICK DUCANE GODMAN, Esq., President, in the Chair.

An abstract of the Treasurer's accounts, showing a good balance in the Society's favour, having been read by one of the Auditors, Mr. H. Goss read the Report of the Council. It was then announced that the following gentlemen had been elected as Officers and Council for 1892 :—President, Mr. Frederick DuCane Godman, F.R.S. ; Treasurer, Mr. Robert McLachlan, F.R.S. ; Secretaries, Mr. Herbert Goss, F.L.S., and the Rev. Canon Fowler, M.A., F.L.S. ; Librarian, Mr. George C. Champion, F.Z.S. ; and as other Members of the Council, Mr. C. G. Barrett, Mr. Herbert Druce, F.L.S., Mr. Henry J. Elwes, F.L.S., Prof. Raphael Meldola, F.R.S., Mr. Edward B. Poulton, M.A., F.R.S., Dr. David Sharp, M.A., F.R.S., Colonel Charles Swinhoe, F.L.S., and the Right Hon. Lord Walsingham, LL.D., F.R.S. It was also announced that the President would appoint Mr. Elwes, Dr. Sharp, and Lord Walsingham, Vice-Presidents for the Session 1892—3. The President then delivered an Address.—H. Goss, *Hon Sec.*

ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES FROM FREMANTLE, &c.

BY JAMES J. WALKER, R.N., F.L.S.

We are now about half-way to our resting place (Hobart), our progress having been much delayed by the difficulty of obtaining coal. This has detained us here ever since Nov. 22nd, not in the least to my regret, as, after the dreary north-west coast, this and the other localities we have visited on our way down are perfect entomological paradises! Indeed, I have rarely, if ever, had better or more interesting collecting than I have enjoyed during the past week. I consider that here I have seen Australia for the first time. It is, however, not a little difficult to get much time to oneself, as the people at this place are so kind and hospitable that one is fairly overwhelmed with invitations.

I now proceed to give a brief *resumé* of my doings since leaving Baudin Island on October 25th.

On the 27th we arrived at Roebuck Bay (where Dampier landed in 1688, or thereabouts), and remained in this spacious but exposed anchorage until November 1st. During this time I had several opportunities for landing, and found quite a nice little lot of things, the only drawbacks to enjoyable collecting were the heat, which is very great, and the simply appalling number of flies, which seem to be worse, if anything, than when this plague (for it is a real plague) was so graphically described by Dampier: from earliest dawn until long after sunset they swarm around you, especially affecting the corners of your eyes, but fortunately they do not bite, they only tickle like the common house-fly, which they much resemble, except that they are smaller and greyer. The country is somewhat like that around Port Darwin, dry and sandy, and for the most part covered with an open *Eucalyptus*-scrub, and plenty of mangroves near the salt water. There is a small settlement (Broome), the head-quarters of a considerable pearl-shelling industry on this coast, and also the terminus of a submarine telegraph cable to Banjoewangie (Java), but not above 100 white people, if as many; plenty of "niggers," but all quiet and harmless fellows. In my several excursions on shore I got perhaps 100 species of insects, of which about 70 were *Coleoptera*. *Lepidoptera* were very scarce, the only one at all plentiful being the common *Pieris teutonia*, though I saw a fine blue *Amblypodia*, apparently different from the Port Darwin one, which I failed to catch. I obtained also a few pupæ of a very beautiful little *Charocampa*, which I have since reared. Nearly all my best captures of *Coleoptera* were made in a small clearing near the telegraph quarters, where there